

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claims * and ADD new claims * in accordance with the following:

1. (ORIGINAL) A light diffusion plate comprising:

a light transmitting thermoplastic resin; and

a light diffusing agent,

wherein the light diffusing agent is contained in an amount of 0.2 to 10% by weight with respect to the total weight of the light diffusion plate,

wherein a degree of brilliancy of at least one surface of the light diffusion plate is from 20 to 70%.

2. (ORIGINAL) The light diffusion plate according to claim 1, which comprises:

a base material layer and;

a coating resin layer formed on at least one surface of the base material layer,

wherein the base material layer and the coating resin layer each comprises the light transmitting thermoplastic resin and the light diffusing agent.

3. (ORIGINAL) The light diffusion plate according to claim 2,

wherein an amount of the light diffusing agent contained in the coating resin layer is 1 to 10% by weight with respect to a weight of the coating resin.

4. (ORIGINAL) The light diffusion plate according to claim 2,

wherein an average particle diameter of the light diffusing agent contained in the coating resin layer is 5 to 30 μm .

5. (ORIGINAL) The light diffusion plate according to claim 2,

wherein a thickness of the coating resin layer is 20 to 200 μm .

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A direct type backlight device comprising, in this order:
- a plurality of linear light sources;
 - the light diffusion plate according to claims 1 to 5; and
 - an optical film,
- wherein a degree of brilliancy of at least a surface of the light diffusion plate, which contacts with the optical film-plate, is from 20 to 70%.